

To-Do List for Seniors 2026-2027

Where do I start?

ALL seniors should fill out the **FAFSA** (federal financial aid) and the **Oregon Promise** (state financial aid for community colleges.) If you are planning to attend a 4-year college, we still urge you to complete the Oregon Promise as a backup plan.

Step 1: Create your FSA ID

- A student creates one *and* a parent creates one, too. Undocumented parents will also need to create a FSA ID.
- <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>
- You will need your social security number for this step and a personal email address.

Step 2: Complete your FAFSA or ORSAA (Opens in October of your senior year)

- Create your FAFSA or ORSAA (for Oregon students without a social security number). *You will need your parents social security numbers and birthdates.
FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
ORSAA: <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/fafsa-orsaa.aspx>
(Both the student and the parent will complete a section and sign electronically)
- **You will be completing the FAFSA 2027-2028 form and using 2025 tax information.**
- Not sure which form to complete? Use the FAFSA/ORSAA Filter Tool to find out:
<https://oregonstudentaid.gov/fafsa-orsaa/fafsaorsaa-filter-tool/>

Step 3: Complete the Oregon Promise Grant Application (Opens Sept/Oct senior year)

- **OREGON PROMISE:** <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/oregon-promise.aspx>
- A **2.0 GPA is required** for students to receive money for community college education. *Both* applications (FAFSA or ORSAA *and* OP) must be completed for financial aid for Oregon community colleges. **DEADLINE: June 1, 2027.**

Step 4: Determine your Path

- Now that you know your financial aid status- whether you will receive a grant (free money) or low-rate loans available to you, it's time to decide on a college/career path and begin applying to colleges or other paths.
- Use your Schoolinks account (go to the SBHS website under the STUDENTS tab <https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>) to research schools and careers. In Schoolinks, you can keep track of your applications and **request your official/unofficial transcript and letters of recommendation.**
- Please see the **College & Career Center webpage** for a calendar of college visits and career and trade opportunities.
- We send a **monthly newsletter** to your school email. Please review it.

Step 5: Scholarships

- Take a look at the Local Scholarship and Comprehensive Scholarship lists under Financial Aid.
<https://sbhs.gresham.k12.or.us/students/college-and-career-center>
- BigFuture scholarship search: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

Step 6: Get Organized

- Get organized. <https://oregongoestocollege.org/prepare/students#worksheets> check out all of the resources that Oregon Goes to College has to help you!

Trying to Decide What Path to Take?

- Mynextmove.org
- Qualityinfo.org - click "Tools" then "Career Explorer"
- Careeronestop.org
- Niche.com
- SchoolLinks
- WorkSource Oregon
- Search College programs and course requirements in your web browser, for example: "[MHCC Programs and Majors](#)" or "[Oregon State University Course Catalog](#)"

Discover and Prepare for an Apprenticeship

- OregonApprenticeship.org - explore trades, portfolio help, & more
- Accessinunionapprenticeships.org - explore trades, portfolio help, & more
- Oregon.gov/boli/apprenticeship - all registered apprenticeships in Oregon
- NWCOC.com/apprenticeship-at-nwcoc - variety of apprenticeship training, non-union
- OregonTradeswomen.org/apprenticeship - Women and gender-expansive support resources - multi-union collaboration
- IBEW48.com - electrical, union
- Area1JATC.us/apprenticeship - electrical, non-union
- 290tech.edu/apprenticeship - plumbing, HVAC, steamfitting, marine fitting, union
- Local737.org - laborers, union
- ORSWroofersapp.com/ - roofing, waterproofing, union
- IUOE701.com/ - operating engineers, union
- WScarpenters.org - carpentry, union
- Constructacareer.org/local-555.html - cement masons, union
- ORPCA.org/chc-operations/inreach-apprenticeship-program - medical assistant
- OHSU.edu/human-resource/entry-level-health-care-career-training - CNA & phlebotomist programs
- [Trade Scholarships](#)

FAST Track

- 2 full credits in your program - woods or metals, passed with a C or higher
- 2 full credits of high school math passed with a C or better
- 4 Career experiences
- NCRC Exams - Score 3+ Applied Math, WP Documents, & Graphic Literacy
- Complete Portfolio
- Participate in a Trade Panel mock interview



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[Barlow College & Career Center](#)

SCAN TO ACCESS LINKS

